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13 October 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Improvement in URPICs

Colonel Winterbottom, AFCIN; Lt. Col. Kemp, AFCIN; Mr. Sherman,

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- The undersigned convened the above group in pursuance of an agreement with Colonel May that, in view of the Air Force's decision to retain control and responsibility of the URPICs, the two agencies -- Air Force and CIA -- should explore aggressively what could be done to improve the URPICs. The undersigned explained that although TALENT materials were not initially planned to meet tactical needs of critical situations throughout the world, history had shown that TALENT materials could be extremely useful. General Cabell and Mr. Bissell had concurred in the thesis that we must assume that the URPICs will be required in the future and that TALENT materials handled in them for tactical purposes should also have the quality so as to permit exploitation for strategic purposes.
- The undersigned pointed out that as he saw the matter, there were, at present, no jurisdictional problems and that both agencies desired to effect such improvements as were feasible. A major difficulty faced by AFCIN in effecting improvements was its inability to command a priority position for equipment and materials commensurate with the need. In the discussion, five major problem areas were identified and action assignments were agreed upon as indicated below:

EH6 Processor

Spare parts for the A9s now used in URPICs are no longer available. The Air Force is committed to the use of the EH6 which processors are now available at URPIC-W and URPIC-Y but not usable for thin-base film without modification. Principally, the modifications required are in the rollers and the tension.

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